

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/851,527

Examiner

Jinsong Hu

Applicant(s)

COULOMBE ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE filed 1/17/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-11, 14-15, 17-28, now as 1-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

NATHAN J. FLYNN  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800  
2154

***EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT***

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears bellow. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as proved by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. William J. Barber (Reg. No. 32,720) on December 8, 2006.

A. Please cancel claims 12-13, 16 and 29.

B. Please amend claims 1, 4, 14 and 25-28 as follow:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A network element comprising:

a transcoder for transcoding context of a content creator or provider that is presented in a certain form on one type of support, terminal, node or device, wherein the improvement comprise:

the transcoder having a transcoder operation module configured for transcoding the content based on one or more permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider so as to present the content in a different and acceptable form on another type of support terminal, node or device, and

the transcoder responding to a signal containing the content and information about the permissible transcoding operations that may be applied on the content

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permissible by the content creator or provider, applying the permissible transcoding operations on the content and providing a transcoded content signal containing information about a transcoded content.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) A network element according to claim 1, wherein the permissible transcoding operations include a resolution reduction module configured for reducing the resolution of the content.

Claim 14. (Currently amended) a method ~~[[for]]~~ comprising:  
transcoding content of content creator or provider that is presented in a certain form on one type of support terminal, node or device, ~~wherein the improvement comprises the method including a step of transcoding the content~~ based on one or more permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider so as to present the content in a different and acceptable form on another type of support terminal, node or device, where the permissible transcoding operations include any transformation, alternation or manipulation of content permitted by the content creator or provider.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) A network ~~[[having]]~~ comprising:  
a network element with a transcoder for transcoding content

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of a content creator or provider that is presented in a certain form on one type of support terminal, node or device, ~~wherein the improvement comprises~~ the transcoder having a transcoder operation module configured for transcoding the content based on permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider; and a client terminal having a respective transcoder with a respective transcoder operation module configured for at least partially transcoding the content based on permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) A network according to claim 25, wherein the network includes a creator terminal, a content provider, a proxy/gateway, a client terminal or a combination thereof, one or more of which having a respective transcoder with a respective transcoder operation module configured for transcoding the content based on permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider.

Claim 27. (Currently amended) A network according to claim 25, wherein the network includes a content provider having a respective transcoder with a respective transcoder operation module configured for at least partially transcoding the content based on permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider.

Claim 28. (Currently amended) A network according to claim 25, wherein the network includes a proxy/gateway having a respective transcoder with a respective transcoder operation module configured for at least partially transcoding the content based on permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider.

***Reasons for allowance***

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicant's claimed invention distinguished over the prior art for the following reasons. The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because none of the references, either alone or in combination, discloses or renders obvious the method comprises a transcoder for transcoding context of a content creator or provider that is presented in a certain form on one type of support, terminal, node or device, the transcoder having a transcoder operation module configured for transcoding the content based on one or more permissible transcoding operations authorized by the content creator or provider so as to present the content in a different and acceptable form on another type of support terminal, node or device, and the transcoder responding to a signal containing the content and information about the permissible transcoding operations that may be applied on the content permissible by the content creator or provider, applying the permissible transcoding operations on the content and providing a transcoded content signal containing information about a transcoded content.

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***Conclusion***

4. Any comments considering necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jinsong Hu whose telephone number is (571) 272-3965. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A. Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Jinsong Hu

December 8, 2006